

**MINUTES  
UNION CITY BOROUGH  
MARCH 13, 2023**

**VISION STATEMENT:** “The Union City area is a thriving rural community of families, businesses and organizations dedicated to encouraging growth while maintaining small town values.”

The Council Meeting for the Borough of Union City was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Councilor Cross. The meeting was at the First United Methodist Church, 42 East High Street, Union City. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by a Boy Scout from Troop 164 and followed by a moment of silence.

**COUNCILORS PRESENT:** were Cross, Joyce, Daggett, Fitch, and Osborn. Warner and Winkler were absent.

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** were Borough Manager, Cindy Wells and Streets Supervisor, Bob Phillips

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Fitch that the agenda stands approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION ON MINUTES:** Motion made by Councilor Fitch and seconded by Councilor Daggett that all Councilors, having read the minutes, approve minutes from the Council Meeting February 28, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION ON SECRETARY’S REPORT:** Motion made by Councilor Osborn and seconded by Councilor Fitch that the Secretary’s Report be accepted and made a part of the minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION ON BILLS:** Motion made by Councilor Osborn and seconded by Councilor Daggett that the unpaid bills be ordered paid and those paid be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**HEARING OF THE VISITORS:** No visitors wished to speak. Boy Scout Troop 164 was in attendance.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Code Enforcement Report for February 2023 was reviewed.

**ZONING:** Zoning Report for February 2023 was reviewed. There were no questions.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT** The Police Chief was not in attendance.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Street Supervisor will make any reports or recommendations he may have.

New Mower will be delivered Thursday, March 16, 2023.

The new truck has the new plow but it can’t be used until the rubber blade is received.

The old traffic signal poles were sold for scrap. We haven’t received the payment yet.

The wiring for the poles was sold for scrap and the Borough received \$565.

**MAYOR:** The Mayor was not present.

**BOROUGH MANAGER:**

**MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES:**

Copies of four complaint forms were provided to Council. They had all been settled. Any garbage complaints were also presented. There were no complaints from residents. No questions from Council.

Adecco update – only one candidate. We don't have the new phone lines or computer at this time. Council wants to discuss at the next meeting.

Statement of Financial Interest is still needed from some Council members.

Fire, EMS & Municipal Leadership Seminar is Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 5:00 PM at the Bayfront Convention Center.

ECATO Invitation to the Annual Firemen's Conference Dinner was provided to Council.

On March 28, 2023 at 5:30 the Pension Committee will be meeting with representatives from Definiti and Northwest to review information regarding the pensions.

CREMA Meeting – Work Session April 4, 2023 at 5:00 PM at Corry City Building, above the fire station. Borough must have someone attend. This is the person that is going to be actively involved with CREMA when the Borough is accepted. The quarterly meetings are typically less than an hour and start at 6:00 and the work sessions are at 5:00 and are about 1-1/2 hours. This is a work session and review of the Emergency Operations Plan that is required. Councilor Cross will plan to attend the Work Session on April 4, 2023.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE #1118 REGARDING RESIDENTIAL**

**DUMPSTERS:** The public hearing was held March 13, 2023 at 5:30. The Ordinance was advertised on February 28, 2023. Council voted on the proposed amendment. Union Area Planning Commission and Erie County Planning both approved the proposed amendment.

**ORDINANCE 1151 - MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE 1118, AMENDING SECTION 302.01 PERMIT REQUIREMENTS TO REQUIRE PERMITS FOR DUMPSTERS IN RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS AND ADOPTING A NEW SECTION 709 PERTAINING TO THE REGULATION OF RESIDENTIAL DUMPSTERS.** Motion made by Councilor Daggett and seconded by Councilor Joyce. Motion carried unanimously.

**PROPOSED STREET STORAGE AND WASTE DUMPSTER ORDINANCE:** The ordinance was advertised on February 28, 2023. Council voted to approve.

**ORDINANCE 1152 -MOTION TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE TITLED STREET STORAGE AND WASTE DUMPSTER WHICH PROVIDES DEFINITIONS RELATED TO STREET STORAGE AND WASTE DUMPSTERS, PERMITS, FEES, PLACEMENT AND USE REGULATIONS, REVOCATION OF PERMITS, REMOVAL OF STREET STORAGE AND WASTE DUMPSTERS, ESTABLISHES VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES AND EQUITABLE RELIEF FOR VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE.**

Motion made by Councilor Osborn and seconded by Councilor Daggett. Motion carried

unanimously.

**TOWING ORDINANCE FOR ABANDONED/ILLEGALLY PARKED VEHICLES:** Council to approve and vote on the ordinance. It was emailed to them for their review on March 10, 2023.

**ORDINANCE 1153 MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED TOWING ORDINANCE FOR ABANDONED/ILLEGALLY PARKED VEHICLES.** Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Daggett. Motion carried unanimously.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE GARBAGE AND RECYCLING ORDINANCE 1138:** The ordinance was advertised on February 28, 2023. Council voted on the proposed amendment. The provision allowing the garbage company to bill landlords will not take affect until April 1, 2024.

**ORDINANCE 1154 - MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE GARBAGE AND RECYCLING ORDINANCE 1138. THE AMENDMENT PROVIDES DEFINITIONS RELATED TO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING, REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING OF GARBAGE, RUBBISH, AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS, ESTABLISHES PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE.** Motion made by Councilor Daggett and seconded by Councilor Fitch. Motion carried unanimously.

**ECGRA RENAISSANCE GRANT 2022/2023 ROUND #2 APPLICATIONS:** Council reviewed the applications and recommendations to receive grant funding. The recommendations were based on properties that will help fight blight by making improvements. The remaining balance of funds available was \$48,785. The applications total requested amount was \$49,968. It was recommended that all applications be approved and the last recipient, based on previous awards of the Renaissance Grant, receives a reduced amount of their request.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2022/2023 RENAISSANCE GRANT ROUND #2, TOTALING \$48,785.** Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Daggett.

**AGREEMENT WITH EADS GROUP TO SUBMIT A DCED GREENWAYS TRAILS & RECREATION GRANT APPLICATION FOR A PORTION OF THE FRENCH CREEK TRAIL:** A DCED application was submitted in 2022 but was not awarded. The EADS Group will make some recommended changes and resubmit the application for 2023 for the amount of \$500. The agreement is the same as the 2022 agreement which had been approved by the Solicitor and Borough Council.

**MOTION TO APPROVE SIGNING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE EADS GROUP TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE DCED GREENWAYS TRAILS AND RECREATION GRANT TO COMPLETE A PORTION OF THE FRENCH CREEK TRAIL.** Motion made by Councilor Fitch and seconded by Councilor Osborn. Motion carried unanimously.

**REQUEST FROM BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP TO RENT OR THE BOROUGH USE THE STREET SWEEPER.** They don't have a sweeper and would like to either use ours or have one of our employees use it on their roads around the lake. They would be responsible to have the machine delivered to their facility and the return of it.

**MOTION TO TABLE UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING, THE USE OF THE PELICAN SWEEPER IN BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP WITH THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS.** Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Daggett. Motion carried unanimously.

**GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS:** A decision regarding eligibility requirements for health and dental insurance benefits was tabled at the February 28, 2023 meeting. Council needs to determine if same sex spouses (legally married) are eligible for coverage. Also, they need to determine what the continuation of benefits provisions are for leave of absence policies. Council discussed possible options.

**MOTION TO ALLOW SAME SEX SPOUSES (LEGALLY MARRIED) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR HEALTH AND DENTAL COVERAGE, AND INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE, SHORT & LONG TERM DISABILITY, WILL BE THE BOROUGH PAYS THE FULL BENEFITS FOR THE FIRST 90 DAYS, THE BOROUGH PAYS 50% THE NEXT 90 DAYS, AND AFTER THE 180 DAYS THE EMPLOYEE HAS THE OPTION TO PAY THE FULL AMOUNT.** Motion made by Councilor Daggett and seconded by Councilor Joyce. Motion carried unanimously with Councilor Cross abstaining because he is an employee of the Municipal Authority.

The information will be provided to the Municipal Authority to present to their board. If they accept it then Benecon will be notified and the Solicitor will make the changes for the Policies and Procedures Manual.

**ADMINISTRATION:** Council President stated that after the last meeting there was some confusion about the pay amount for Dennis Ploss, Code Enforcement Assistant. He had previously also been a Zoning Assistant. A flat dollar amount had been discussed at a previous meeting then at the last meeting a motion was made to reduce it to 2/3 of what he had been receiving. The amounts were not the same. Council all agreed it was to be the 2/3 amount.

**DEPARTMENT LIAISON REPORTS:** Department Liaisons had no reports or recommendations.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Osborn that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

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ATTEST